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United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

1849 C Street, N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20240

IN REPLY REFER TO:

June 9, 2004

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Memorandum

To: Regional Designated Safety and Health Officials
Regional Risk Managers

From: Associate Director, Visitor and Resource Protection /s/ **Karen Taylor-Goodrich**

Subject: *NPSafe*

Through the efforts of many persons, progress has been made in reducing the Service's very high employee injury and illness rate, but for a variety of reasons, our rates are still far too high. To address this situation, a task group of field managers and supervisors developed a realistic and feasible employee safety and health action plan that provides operational direction for our safety program for the next 5 years. This plan focuses on making job safety and health a reality to the men and women who do our work and who are at risk of job-related injuries and illnesses. This plan is called *NPSafe*.

To promote *NPSafe*, we have purchased lapel pins that are being sent to regional safety managers for distribution to all employees. Additional promotional items such as key chain carabiners, sunglass retainers ("chums") and *NPSafe* ball caps will be made available to you as you roll out *NPSafe*. A sample of each will be sent to regional safety managers in the near future. We will provide funding for a quantity of the items you select.

The *NPSafe* plan and a video of Director Mainella introducing it during the Department's Safety and Health Awareness Week in April can be found on the Risk Management website which can be easily accessed by clicking on "Safety and Health" on the front page of InsideNPS.

In the midst of the many demands for your time, I ask that you take a few minutes to learn about *NPSafe* and to give it your full support. We are often asked to "do more with less." Let's not make it worse by having less people to do this important work because they are away due to injuries and illnesses. We owe it to our employees to provide them with the training and resources to do their jobs safely. *NPSafe* is our plan to get us there.